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mighty's image, in the victim of depravity from which his soul recoils in horror. However obscure, however distorted, it must be his lofty purpose to give definition to this image; and we well know that as the semblance of the intellectual and ethical divine assumes its clear and beautiful proportions, all sensual thought-forms are forced out of focus.

The climax of Christian altruism is reached in this giving of soul to save soul. Ideal ethico-spiritual inspiration is a transfusion of personality. The reader can judge of the responsibility resting upon him who undertakes the substitution of high and happy standards for sinful impulses and demoralizing beliefs, of the knowledge of the patient's inner life that is required, of the nice discrimination and the unswerving principle essential to moral triumphs. Given the indispensable qualities of a perfect suggestionist, given desire for reform on the part of the subject, with the induction of a congenial passiveness, and regeneration may be effected in a single hour—regeneration that is radical and lasting.

And in extreme cases, where the brain, the transmitter of moral force from the higher spiritual self, is supernaturally alert, we are most certainly justified in temporarily deadening with a harmless hypnotic the activity of the cells, in order that sleep may be induced. This is the daily practice of many of the European scientists mentioned in this paper. It is a recognized fact that the subject must be wooed into the appropriate sleep with the use of an innocent sedative, where there is no alternative. Provided there be rapport, suggestions given during sleep so induced are post-hypnotically fulfilled. The writer has been wantonly denounced by certain fanatics for "giving opiates to children." This he has never done and never advised, as it is both unnecessary and unsafe. But he does believe in the cautious administration of simple hypnogenic agents to vicious children who cannot otherwise be reduced to a suggestible state. No harm can come of it in the hands of a scrupulous and skilled physician. And the woman who declines to give, under such direction, a sleep-inducing medicine in order that her son or daughter may be saved from an

immoral career, is wholly unworthy of the name and relationship of mother.

Like every other agent for good, hypnotic suggestion has its abuses and its limitations. Society therefore should be adequately guarded against its practice by irresponsible or unprincipled persons. Fortunately, the power of suggestion for evil-doing is limited, while its influence for good is without horizon. Whereas, for instance, it is easy to restrain a kleptomaniac, it is hardly possible to make an honest person steal by urging him in hypnosis to do so. Criminal acts, if suggested, will not be post-hypnotically committed by persons of balance and principle. And all suggestions out of harmony with moral convictions, common-sense and the life habits of the subject are likely to be futile.

In consideration of its abuse, the use of hypnotism should be restricted by law, in its employment for the cure of physical and mental disease, to reputable physicians; in its employment for the removal of moral taints and tendencies to crime, to properly qualified philanthropists—for the results obtained always will be in harmony with the ideals of the suggestionist. If the ethical ideals of the operator are low, attempt at the reform of the subject must prove valueless; if high, the moral pervert may be raised to their plane.

Especially should be suppressed the brutalizing hypnotic exhibitions of dime museums, shop windows and parlor entertainments, and the circulation of literature on hypnotism, advertising instruction in methods of inducing this mental state, teaching "the art of fascination," etc. Hypnotic power is like that of the poet: born not made. It cannot be bought and cannot be taught, nor can it be exploited to advantage by the sordid, the inconsiderate, the ill-prepared.

Therefore, in the interest of humanity, should all who are recklessly prostituting its powers to their own greed or vanity—the whole spawn of charlatans, impostors, seers and other dabblers in hypnotism—be deprived of the right to juggle at pleasure with human life and human character and be buried out of sight in the bottomless bogs of their own ignorance and knavery.

## THE WALLFLOWER

By Minnette Slayback Carper

I hate all receptions and weddings and teas.  
I loathe all the buzz and the absence of ease.  
I feel like an imp when I don my dress-suit—  
It bores me and makes a bore of me to boot.  
Yet, sure as a pasteboard commands me repair,  
I leave books and pipe and my snug easy-chair.  
And bid me to wretchedly gaze into space—  
For what? Just the pleasure of watching her face.  
I have known her and loved her so long that it seems  
To win her was one of my earliest dreams.  
This butterfly life that my own senses cloy  
Is the thing above all other things she enjoys.  
She smiles and she chatters, to me or to others,  
To maidens and mothers to fathers and brothers  
And though not so fresh as a young debutante,  
She's more like the debutante's sister than aunt.  
The younger girls love her, and bring up their beaus.  
Her cheeks dimple up and grow red as a rose.  
She talks with such wit that they all shout with glee,  
While she turns and tenders a quick glance to me.  
Such dark roguish eyes and such lashes to cover!  
I wish I were once again young, and her lover!  
But time can't roll back. Then, I say, what a shame  
To think she is married and out of the game!  
No more stolen meetings and long moonlight walks;  
No lingering good-bys and no half-whispered talks;  
No bonbons, no music, no books, they can send—  
The flowers she receives now are just from a friend.  
She signals. I reach her. To hear I bend low:  
"You see they are leaving. I think I shall go."  
So glad is my heart then at what I have heard,  
I fly for my togs without saying a word.  
Outside in the starlight I ask will she walk?  
Oh, yes; but I mustn't expect her to talk;  
The air is so cool she must muffle her throat  
And turn up the top of her long opera-coat.  
We stop in the shadow—no eyes north or south—  
I give her a kiss on that warm little mouth.  
You say you are scandalized? Well, on my life!  
You don't seem to know that the lady's my wife!

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